

**DATA MONITORING METHOD AND DEVICE THEREFOR**

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**Abstract**

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**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To previously and speedily prevent the illegal copy of electronic data whose copy is inhibited by stopping or preventing a copy operation when a development image is considered to be copy inhibition information.

**SOLUTION:** A printing information analysis circuit 15 always monitors printing data 11 transferred to a printer 2, previously forms character string information, picture pattern information and code information, which are filled by page description language as objective data and password information buried by electronic watermark technology into a final development image in a recognition memory 16 and collates it with information from copy inhibition information 14 so as to analyze it. When printing information is decided to be previously registered in copy inhibition information 14, a stop instruction 151 for stopping the transfer of printing data is outputted to a printer driver 12. The content of copy inhibition information 14 can always correspond to a content whose printing is to be inhibited and it can be updated. Speedy correspondence to a security management level and security information, which are changed every day, can be executed.

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